

Washington State Patrol Media Release

Chief John R. Batiste



Captain Jeff DeVere
Government and Media Relations
(360) 753-5299 – office
(360) 753-5469 – fax
<http://www.wsp.wa.gov>

*****For Immediate Release*****

Date: March 24, 2006
Contact: Trooper Jeff Sevigney
Phone: (509) 993-2946
Email: Jeff.Sevigney@wsp.wa.gov

Troopers Make Drug Bust on I-90

On March 23, 2006, at 7:30 pm, WSP Troopers stopped a vehicle on Interstate 90 at Broadway after it was observed traveling at a high rate of speed and did not have any tail lights. The trooper immediately placed the driver, 18 year old Vatsana Muongkhoth under arrest for reckless driving for speeds in excess of 90 mph.

A subsequent search of Muongkhoth's purse revealed 2.4 grams of marijuana and 3.4 grams of crack cocaine. WSP K-9 Trooper was called to the scene to search Muohgkhoth's vehicle. The WSP K-9 alerted on a diaper bag, were 19.4 grams of crack cocaine was located.

Troopers also arrested the passenger, 28 year old Tracy M. Bear who had an outstanding misdemeanor warrant for his arrest. Bear's warrant was for failure to appear on a charge of no valid operator's license. There were three children in the vehicle at the time of the stop, one was a 3 month old infant. Family members were called to the scene to pick up the children.

Muongkhoth will face charges of reckless driving, reckless endangerment and possession of narcotics with the intent to deliver. Bear will as be charged with possession of narcotics with the intent to deliver. Both were booked into the Spokane County Jail.

This event is a prime example of why there is no such thing as a routine traffic stop.

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